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8 Pages

Fall Convocation stirs students

by Kevin Chapman
Strobe staff

Enjoy your last year of college, because there will not be much to enjoy after college. That was the message to the class of 1991 at this year's Fall Academic Convocation. 1991 class President Bill McCarty told seniors to look back and remember the friendships made in college as they anticipate entering the real world. President Mara followed McCarty with a warning to seniors about the real world with what he called a "dose of reality."

McCarty's charge to the senior class instructed seniors to "cherish these last few moments...remember the people and enjoy this year to the fullest." Seniors should take the opportunity to step back and look at the people they began college with as "blank pages hoping to be written on" and see how they have all grown. In his final statement, McCarty asked the seniors as they leave Fitchburg State College, to "look back and remember...and don't forget to dream."

President Mara's address to the half full Weston Auditorium painted a bleak picture for the seniors as they enter the work force. He pointed to the "Grand Canyon

gap between the haves and the have nots, because America has changed so profoundly in the last decade or two." A future where the seniors will be able to have a family, live in a comfortable suburban home, and provide their children with an adequate education is, according to Dr. Mara, "not likely."

The failure of the state and federal governments, with regards to the budget deficit, the environment, and education is "truly sickening." President Mara continued by saying that the seniors will be entering a society where "leadership is like the sock in the dryer. Nobody knows where it went, but it's gone."

He challenged the class of 1991 to know what is going on, to change things, to be outraged, at the system, and to dismantle it, not with more arbitrary destruction, but with a thoughtful process. It will not be easy, and it will not change overnight, but we're all in it together." Dr. Mara finished his challenge to the class of 1991 by telling them that there is "no shortage of people in need, only a shortage of people who care enough."



Faculty at Convocation

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

Dr. Sides: New teacher in Comm/Media

by Christine Houle
Strobe staff

The outstanding academic success of Fitchburg State College, and the challenge of being vice president in the state college system, attracted Dr. Charles R. Ratto to the post of vice president of Student Affairs.

"I am very delighted to be here at Fitchburg State," said Ratto. He is also excited about the challenge of being the vice president of Student Affairs.

Ratto is spending his time getting familiar with the college in order to be able to have a basis for future plans. In general, he would like to coordinate efforts to improve and also better the quality of student life.

He has had more than twenty years of experience in the field. He will be responsible for many student oriented programs, including coun-

seling, financial aid, athletics, career planning and placement, health services, student activities, and residence life.

Ratto's experience includes ten years as dean of students at Stonehill, and nine years as director of counseling and health services at Southeastern Massachusetts University.

Among his accomplishments at Stonehill, were the planning of a new recreational center and several residence halls, the development of four new varsity sports, and the creation of more than twenty new programs. Among these twenty programs, were five student affairs courses that could be taken for credit. They included RA training, career assessment and development, alcohol and drug abuse, human sexuality combined with a lecture series and a paraprofessional internship in career planning in the career services office.

At SMU, he established several new programs. One is the Cooperative Learning Center,

which uses upper level students to tutor students having academic difficulties.

Ratto stated that while working in the Counseling Center, he became more aware of student needs and responded to them.

"I think it is important to be aware and to evaluate student needs, to respond to these needs, and to provide programs for quality academic and social adjustment to the college," commented Ratto.

Ratto, a licensed psychologist, holds a doctorate of education and a masters of education degree in counseling psychology from Boston College. He has also earned an MBA from BC and completed his undergraduate work at Holy Cross.

Dr. Ratto is involved in a number of professional organizations including the American Psychological Association, the American Association for Counseling and Development, the National Association of Student Personnel Administration, and the Massachusetts College Personnel Association.



Pres. Mara and Dr. Ford

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

FSC welcomes Dr. Ratto

by James LeDuc
Strobe staff

For those students in a communications major or more specifically, the technical writing track, you've probably noticed a new face in the Comm/Media faculty.

After Larry Maness left as head of the Technical Writing department, Fitchburg State College looked everywhere for some-

one with the credentials and reputation to fill his position. Dr. Charles Sides, a North Carolina native, had the qualifications and now holds this prestigious job.

Fourteen years ago, Dr. Sides left his hometown near Charlotte, to pursue a career in architecture, but soon realized that this wasn't his best career choice. "It took a few years to be convinced I couldn't draw," he

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SGA update: SGA and Mara offer views

by Todd Weldon
Strobe staff

Question 3 has become the most important and unrelenting topic for the Student Government Association. The importance lies in fighting CLT (Citizens for Limited Taxation) leader, Barbara Anderson. SGA President Jamie Buckley plans to organize controlled marches before CLT headquarters in Boston. Buckley explained, "We

have to be knowledgeable if we're going to attack this issue." He reasoned that there will be approximately 20 students from each state college or university in order to have controlled pickets.

Question 3 requires cuts of six billion dollars over the next three years. It will cut into every muscle of the public higher education system in Massachusetts. It will cut 1.2 billion dollars from the remaining three billion left in the "discretion-

ary" portion of the state budget. This translates to a 40% cutout of elementary/secondary education programs, the public higher education budget, an overwhelming portion of local aid to cities and towns, and virtually all human service programs.

"CLT will be a mega disaster if it passes," emphasized President Mara. According to Mara, four million will be cut during

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Dr. Ratto

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

Dr. Ratto

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said with a slight chuckle.

With new determination, he graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a doctorate in Technical Communications. He has written over twenty-five articles and three books, one of which has been distributed in the U.S., middle east, far east, Europe and was featured at the Moscow Book Fair in the Soviet Union. He has taught at U Mass, Clarkston University, MIT and most recently at Northeastern University.

When asked about his new environment, he responded, "It's (FSC) small, unlike UMass, where you can get lost in the crowd. People here tend to know each

other better," he stated. "I'm particularly impressed with the students' enthusiasm, and the faculty are much like the students, congenial, easy to know and work with."

Some of his hobbies include backpacking, cycling, Civil War memorabilia, and reading.

He is presently teaching public relations, technical documentation, writing for broadcast advertising and script writing.

If you have an interest in technical writing, communications in general, or just want to say hello, then stop by A-210 and see Dr. Sides. He'll be more than happy to see you.

SGA update

Continued from page 1

continued frsecond semester from January to June of 1992. He went on to further explain that Question 3 will cut Fitchburg's already reduced budget, in half. "This translates," continued Mara, "into a tuition increase anywhere from \$1200 to \$1800 for students in the second semester. President Mara supported that there would be a significant, but undetermined, loss of students, and it would be difficult to project an exact tuition increase at this time.

Ultimately, CLT will sky rocket tuition costs and potentially cut the number of existing colleges. Mara urges students to oppose CLT and to vote no on Question 3. More

importantly, students need to become knowledgeable about the referendum questions. He regrets, "Those students who have no clue about CLT and the referendum questions, are not going to pay any attention."

Shadowed by the budget crisis, racism remains amongst the top concerns around today's college campuses. FSC, a founding member of the Society Organized Against Racism (SOAR), will be attending a racial awareness conference on October 5th and 6th at Brown University. SGA is sponsoring 15 students to participate. The

conference is designed to provide current information on the state of racism in America, and the hindrances of fighting it. It will also provide an opportunity for self-examination, cultural sharing and strategy sharing.

Motion #8, approved Wendy Rosengren as the Commuter's Board representative for the class of 1992, effective immediately for the 90-91 academic year.

Motion #9 approved Phil Asselin as the Commuter's Board representative for the class of 1993, effective immediately for the 90-91 academic year.

The following Student positions are vacant. If you are interested, please contact the appropriate persons.

Programs Committee (contact: Michelle J. Clark)
Vice President
Performing Arts Chairperson

Commuter's Board (contact Derrick McKercher)

Class of '91 Representative
Class of '94 Representative

Saxifrage Yearbook (contact Gina Cuccovia)
Greek Editor, Writers
Academic Editor, Photographers
Events Editor, Treasurer

The results for the Freshman class (1994) Fall elections are as follows:

• **President...Colleen Jackson**
• **Vice President...Thadeus M. Yukna**
• **Secretary...Wanda Lee Silva**
• **Treasurer...Michael Stone**

• There are no class representatives. Interested candidates should contact SGA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Academic Success Center is looking for tutors in all subjects. Non-work-study students are welcome. For more information, please call 345-2151, ext. 3427, or drop by Hammond 305, on the third floor of the library.

The Newman Center would like to announce that the Office of Spiritual Development, located at 2121 Commonwealth Ave, Brighton, MA 02135, will conduct a retreat for college students (ages 18-22), on October 12, 13, 14, 1990. The retreat will be held at St. William's Hall on the grounds of St. John's Seminary. Suggested offering is \$35. For further information, contact either Father Rich or Lois at the Newman Center at 345-2688.

Due to Alumni weekend, Mass will be celebrated at the Newman Center on Saturday, October 6, at 4:30p.m., and Sunday, October 7, at 11:00a.m. All are invited to participate in welcoming back our alumni.

The MARS Club (Mature and Returning Students) will host an open house on Thursday, October 4, at 1:30p.m. in Thompson Tunnel 1. Re-

FEATURES

Make a difference on campus

by Kris Werfelman
Strobe staff

In a day and age of such environmental disaster, one might be overwhelmed by the task of cleaning up the earth. It would appear to be a useless fight, yet individual efforts do help. The recycling committee on campus has undertaken the duty of educating the school on the importance of this issue.

The request of the committee is a simple one: do your part. Recycling bins are located in convenient locations around campus. White and colored paper can be left at Thompson in the Nursing office, McKay's mailroom, B141, Conlon 312, Sander's 120(admis-

sions foyer), and the Campus Center (near the mailroom). Conlon's 302A(computer room) and Dupont's 208(outside Maintenance) accept computer, white and colored paper. By simply depositing your papers to be recycled at any of these locations, you are helping to protect your environment.

If you find that the above locations are not convenient, please notify the recycling committee through Jim O'Malley ext. 3206. Remember that each individual effort creates a better world. Instead of only recycling your used paper, also try to conserve it. Writing on both sides and reusing paper for scrap will reduce the outrageous consumption of paper. Make that extra effort and realize that you can make a difference.

..... Students on Quad



Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

POPAI offers scholarship

by Christine Houle
Strobe staff

This years Visiting Artists and Lectures Series at Fitchburg State College will entertain one of the nation's major issues, the future of education.

The first lecture was September 26 with Dr. John Hassard, a professor and researcher in science education who is currently involved in the US-USSR Global Thinking Project.

The remaining line up for the semester consists of David Elkind, a professor of child study at Tufts, on Oct. 9, Adam Urban斯基, on Oct. 30, and George Ladd, a professor of geology and educa-

tion at Boston College, on Nov. 27. Second semester the speakers will include Maynard Reynolds, a well-known researcher in the field of special education, on January 30, Carol O'Connell, director of elementary education for the Northmont City Schools in Englewood, Ohio, on March 26, and Charles Willie, a sociologist and professor of Urban studies at Harvard's Graduate School of Education, on April 24.

All lectures will begin at 8:00 p.m. in the Richard Kent Recital Hall. They are open to the public free of charge. Funding is provided by the FSC Foundation, Inc., the college's private fund-raising arm.

by Christine Houle
Strobe staff

The Point-of-Purchase Advertising Institute (POPAI) is offering a \$1250 first prize scholarship and a \$500 second prize scholarship for its annual Student Marketing Competition. The POPAI's 1990 Student Marketing Competition offers students the challenge of integrating Point-of-Purchase materials into a marketing program for a hypothetical consumer product with "real life" marketing objectives and conditions.

According to John M. Kawula, president of POPAI, this program is designed to expose students to the world of marketing and the vital role that Point-of-Purchase advertising plays in the

total market mix. This competition offers tomorrow's leaders a chance to exercise their marketing talents and investigate Point-of-Purchase as a stimulating career objective while they're still in the classroom.

Each entry will be judged by a number of criteria, including meeting the stated marketing objective within given budget parameters, making significant use of in-store display activity and demonstrating originality and creativity. The judges will be marketing professionals and Point-of-Purchase industry professionals. The deadline for entering the competition is December 14.

One entry will be selected as Student Marketing Program-of-the-Year. It will be announced at POPAI's annual Point-of-Purchase Conference, which

will be held March 3-5, 1991.

Full-time undergraduates, sophomores through seniors, attending accredited colleges and universities in the United States are eligible. For further information contact:

POPAI
66 North Van Brunt st.
Englewood, NJ 07631
(201) 894-8899

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SPORTS
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President Mara speaks at Fall Convocation

For those of you who were unable to attend Fall Convocation on September 27, 1990, The Strobe, with permission, has taken the liberty of reprinting President Mara's address to the students and faculty.

Student Fall Convocation
Vincent J. Mara, PhD
September 27, 1990

First of all, I'd like to welcome all of you, particularly the freshmen, since you're beginning something of a new tradition this year. In the past, this Convocation has been aimed primarily at seniors, but this time around we decided to get the freshmen involved. I welcome the opportunity to address those of you who are just beginning your studies here.

I'd like to open with a story about the old west. And the new west. During the summer I read an article about two professors, a husband and wife team, who had come up with a new theory about the Plains States, those great open spaces where the buffalo roam, or used to roam. I'm oversimplifying here, but basically their argument was that much of that land should never have been converted into farms and ranches. It was simply an unwise use of the resources. Economically and environmentally, it made no sense. That's why people in these regions have historically had to struggle so much. The best thing to do, this couple concluded, was to gradually return the land to its natural state, to reintroduce the buffalo and turn millions of acres into national parks.

To make a long story short, when people out west got wind of this theory they were outraged. They practically stoned this poor couple every time they made an appearance in the region. The farmers and ranchers and townspeople talked proudly of their heritage, about the early settlers and rugged American individualism.

This couple thought they were taking a careful, analytical look at a complex issue. But what they had done, unwittingly, was dare to question a sacred vision of America. They challenged a myth. There may not be many buffaloes left in this country, but there's a lot of sacred cows.

In the last few years, I've often wondered how you and others your age envision America. I've spoken to so many of you that I know a great deal about your hopes and dreams, your accomplishments and your disappointments. It's more difficult to get a clear sense of your attitude about this country.

I know you don't see America the same way I did when I was growing up, and certainly not in the same way my father saw it. In fact, I've come to believe that America has changed so profoundly in the last decade, maybe two decades, that young people no longer share a common context with older generations.

We still call it America, but it's not the same country. Whether it's better or worse is really beside the point. It's just different.

I'll give you some examples. To keep from putting you asleep with abstractions I'll make them

specific to your future. They may apply more directly to seniors than underclassmen, but let me warn the freshman that your four years here will fly by with lightning speed. It won't be long before you too, will be making plans for graduation.

In the next few years, most of you will be marrying, settling into family life and beginning careers. You may find it hard to envision yourselves in such staid circumstance, but statistically that's what the majority of you will be doing.

As recently as the 1960s, you could have counted on a fifty percent increase in earning power during your first decade of work. Not any more. It's more likely that as time goes by you'll be earning less in terms of real dollars. That, sadly, is the trend now. But you can at least be grateful that you have a college degree, because the difference in earning power between high school and college graduates has tripled in the last couple of decades. That's good news for you, but bad news for a country that's already suffering badly from a Grand Canyon of a gap between the haves and the have nots.

Ten years ago, back when most of you were in grade school, we elected as president a man who supposedly made Americans "Feel good about themselves," to use pop psychology parlance. Unfortunately, the only people who had reason to feel good were the wealthy. As one observer recently put it: "The rich got richer and paid fewer taxes. The middle class made less money and paid more taxes. The poor got poorer and there were more of them." You were playing children's games when Reaganomics were set in place, but the effects are just now coming home to roost, and they will profoundly affect your lives. The times they have a-changed, but not for the better.

So much for earning power. Next let's take a look at where you'll live. It's not likely to be a nice house in suburbia, at least not unless you have family money. The cost of an average home in this state is \$170,000. To buy that average home, you'll need a \$20,000 down payment. And you'll still be carrying a mortgage of maybe \$1500 a month. You'll need a salary of well over \$50,000 a year to handle that, but it's more likely that you'll be making about half that much. To compare again with the 1960s, mortgage payments then only took up about one sixth of a average salary. Today it's well over a third.

To try to make up the difference, both you and your spouse will probably work. Or you'll find a second job, or you'll work longer hours. But what if you want to have children? You'll have to give up one income, for a time at least. And then there will be day care expenses when the mother returns to work. The cost will cut deeply into your second income.

You'll be working very hard, and you'll want your children to have all the best, but when it comes time to enroll them in kindergarten, you'll be in for a shock. America doesn't really value education any more. You may find that the public schools are overcrowded and rundown. They may be stripped of Arts Education. There may be no music, no playground equipment. You could send your children to a private school, but that's another big chunk out of your already tight budget.

When you return home after work, it probably won't be to a community like the ones my generation was used to. It's not likely to be a neighborhood of family and friends. We're a mobile society now. No one stays in one place. You're likely to move frequently and you'll have fewer long-term relationships with people in your community.

On a larger scale, that dynamic results in a loss of a sense of community. There's no historical perspective. There's little inclination towards volunteerism. And anyway, who has the time?

Whatever difficulties you may have, however, will be nothing compared to some of your no-so-fortunate fellow Americans. Take a look at any major city and you'll find yet another America. It's one with no laws except the law of the jungle. It's one where children are shot in the streets and junkies shoot up in the streets. It's one totally beyond the comprehension of most of us who haven't experienced it. But it's one that will not disappear. It's one that will demand its day of reckoning.

But that's not the only beast slouching toward Bethlehem. The days of hitching our natural resources to the yoke of progress are over. The environmental crisis is no hoax. Somewhere down the line, and not too far down the line, a fundamental change in life-style is going to be required. Few of our leaders are willing to accept this fact, and that's just compounding an already ominous situation.

Then there's the budget deficit. You may not have paid much attention to it up until now, but you will. You'll be paying attention and just plain paying. You don't deserve to inherit this monstrous debt, but as John F. Kennedy so succinctly put it, "Life is unfair."

Can you stand some more bad news? We've got 30 million people living in poverty in this country, and much of our infrastructure is crumbling. When America had the money, or at least thought it had the money, during the boom years of the 80s, it was spent foolishly. We increased spending on the military but made cuts in education and social programs. The very top tier of corporate executives,

landed gentry and investment bankers increased their already sizable fortunes, but the rest of America barely hung on.

At the heart of all these problems you inherit is the utter failure of our political system, on both the state and national level. The selfishness and pettiness is truly sickening to witness. Our so-called leaders are themselves ruled by special interest groups, lobbyists, consultants and campaign managers. Only a handful have the vision that extends beyond their own reelection.

And, incredibly, it looks like things could get even worse. Texas, one of our largest states, may soon be electing as governor an ignorant, intolerant, selfish man whose only qualification is his immense wealth. He's unabashedly pro-business and anti-poor. He's homophobic and proud of it. And people have responded to this man. They think he's what America is all about.

In Louisiana, a Ku Klux Klansman and Neo-Nazi has a seat in the state legislature and enjoys enough support to be looking at a seat in the U.S. Senate.

In our own state, we have witnessed these last two years a pathetic performance of fear and loathing on the part of elected officials. Their steadfast refusal to take a stand — any stand — resulted in the complete paralysis of our political system. It was a truly dark hour for a state that purports to be one of the cradles of American Civilization.

I'm sorry to have to paint for you such a disturbing picture. This country was never perfect, and it would be pointless romanticism to look back with longing to a time that never really existed. But there was a time when we had leadership; when we had a shared sense of direction; a shared sense of compassion.

It seems to have gone in the same way that those little neighborhoods filled with lifelong family and friends is gone. Or maybe it's more like the sock that gets lost in the dryer — no one knows where it went, it's just gone.

I believe, however, that what's been lost can be regained, that what's dark now can be illuminated. There are cycles within the course of human history, American history, Massachusetts history. The wheel can be stopped and the direction changed. The reason I've given you this dose of reality today is that I want you to know how things are now. And I want you to change them. I want you to be outraged at the way the system is now set up. I want you to dismantle it.

You'll notice I didn't say "Tear it down." Dismantling implies a thoughtful process. What we don't need is any more arbitrary destruction, any more selfish and self-righteous anger, any more change for change's sake.

Your generation can turn things around, but it won't happen overnight and it won't come cheap.

The first step is to educate yourselves, and by that I mean beyond what you'll learn in the classrooms here. Know what's going on. Understand, for example, that the new tax package they're talking about in Washington right now will again cut taxes for the wealthy while further increasing the burden of the middle class. Understand why our armed forces stand ready to do battle in the Middle East. Ask yourself if we would, or should, do the same for Third World Countries with no oil beneath their sand. Closer to home, understand how the state budget works, where the money goes and what the priorities are. In your own cities and towns, keep a close eye on the issues. Know what your leaders are doing, why they're doing it, and who they're doing it for.

The second step toward change will require a huge investment, not of your money, but of your time, of yourself. You've got to become involved. As I mentioned earlier, that's not easy in today's society. What's easy is to become self-absorbed and isolated. But that way lies disaster, for you personally and for the country.

I have read recently of an increase in volunteerism among students, a moving away from the overwhelming careerism and consumerism of the last decade or two. I hope that's true, although I must admit I wonder if it's not just another journalistic trend story.

Your efforts take any number of forms. You might choose the political route, the social route, or any number of personal routes. There is no shortage of issues, no shortage of causes, no shortage of people in need. The only shortage is of people who are enough. We need those people more than ever. Because, as we've moved into the high technology information age, as we've moved to a global economy, a number of interesting changes have taken place. Many say the world has become more impersonal, but in a strange way, we're now more closely tied than ever. We're all in it together, and perhaps we now better understand how closely intertwined our relationships are.

Maybe a vision of America is not what's important any more. Maybe it's best that the American dream, if it ever really existed, be laid to rest. It can be replaced with a dream of the world. Walt Whitman called it "the new city of friends." He said, "I dreamed in a dream I saw a city, invincible to the attacks of the whole rest of the earth. I dreamed that was the new city of friends."

A dream of the world may seem impossibly large in scope, but the actions that will make it real, start in your own state, your

Read The Strobe every Wednesday

PERSONALS

THE STROBE assumes no responsibility for comments written in this section. Personals are accepted every Wednesday in G-Lobby for 35 cents. We reserve the right to edit all personals.

Kim,
I believe in your "soul." We will be friends forever. Marcella

Laura,
I think you should start paying rent for all the fun you are having.

Maureen,
Undefeated still! Don't mess with the Scrabble Queen!

Tokalon Pledging sign-ups Now in G-lobby!

To all the dead flower princesses - together we'll always triumph.

Sean - I love you. - Amy

To the 9th floor Aubuchon - You girls are a great bunch - Hang in there -?

Chrissy and Traci
You two deserve the purple heart of the month -?

To "the boy"
We miss you and we'll always tumble for you. I know you miss me blind.
Sue & Nuala

The quote of the week:
"He's cute but infected!"

Deputy Dog:
Never put water on a grease fire!
Love, APO

Moe:
Give it up you'll never be Scrabble Queen get a new dictionary!
Love your roomies & Laura

Moe & Julie,
What's the T.V. line up for tonight? See ya on the love seat.

Chuck
"Where's the Kaboom?"
- C. E.

Craig,
Who's Scooping Who?
- 9th Floor Russell

Opus, You hot babe!!

Binz,
Mow my shank - NAED

Ian
Dude, You're not a townie, pop!
- Holmsie

Matt for Pope!

Caisse -
You know...
- Matt

Tree
Live Baroquely
- Scrod

Matt for Pope
Its time for a change!

FSC
Homeboy and Nixon pals for life

Rocker,
Will Betty marry Three?
- Anna

Anna
No way.
Rocker

Eric,
I love my "Bud"
Love, "Spud"

Hi everybody on the south side
Aubuchon 4th
Love, Deb

Kim,
There will be no crises this week.
Right?

Zippy -
You wild animal. You've been hit by your last car.

Linda -
Watch out for those stairs!
Love Jack

Tracy -
How's the animal shelter?

6th floor Aub
I gave him my heart and he gave me a PEN!

Taryn
Your car looks like it needs to be washed. How about 2:30 a.m. -Me

Amnesty International meets every Tuesday in the lecture hall just off G- Lobby
at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!!

Attn: Masked Zambuca Warrior
I love you - Capt. Crunch

Tony -
What's the story?
Love, Me

Awareness Class
Confidentiality???

Tina,
He's s-o-o-o beautiful!
Love, Christine

Tina & Pam
How's 4:45 a.m. from the Rush?
We must do it again soon.
Love Christine

Christine,
How often are we gonna sleep the day away?
Love, Me

Christine,
How's my big bro's lips?
Love Me

Dearest Mike M.,
When I saw you on the mound it was like love at first sight. I hope we can have more off the field than on the field. You true love.
- The Catcher A

D.C.
Squaw pledging has now been initiated! Quality as well as quantity is a must. You know and I know that its going to be one of those years. Lets break a record this time.
Soangetaha

Hard rock/Metal heads,
Every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., tune into 91.3 WXPL for the best in mainstream as well as underground hard rock and metal.
Enjoy!
D.M. and M.S.

Dearest Walker,
Hi my worst half! (Just kidding)
Anyway I love ya. So get up and go to class. Waker

M. Waker
You sap! You know I don't mean to be mean! It's just my nature around this time of the month! Deal with it! I love ya! You're a great friend! Peace, the better half!

Mike the Hooch Bunny loves all

Dan where are you? - Candi

Carla and Dorothy,
Have a nice day! - Your secret pal

Joe,
Stop giving Birth! It stinks!
- Your Stud Roomie

Say no to sayin' no
- Peace, Love Dogs

Anig,
Remember backwards?
Sorry, NEAD

Marce
Something needs to be done because its your fifth year here and no one has written you, shame on them.

Hey,
My holes have jeans in them.
- You

"Don't touch me" NaNaNaNa

"Don't worry I won't" Ha Ha Ha Ha

Welcome back, Welcome back
If you want to stay VOTE NO ON QUESTION #3

Sig Taus,
Saturday night was a blast! We all had a great time. Lets do it again soon!
Love, The Adelphians

Hi Di,
Doesn't the word Ed have multiple meanings?

Cara,
Let's not drink coffee anymore, I can't handle being wired all the time, this thing can't keep reoccurring. (AAAHHH!) Cheryl

Michael,
If you keep me up till 4:30 a.m. again I just might give in, but make sure I don't have a test the next day. I love you! - Love Cheryl

Soap is cool!
Let's do it again - Me

Jamie
When's the wedding? - Jules

Karen P.
Guess who? Luv ya! - Dan

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TH 208
You girls are a plethora of fun. Can't wait to see who gets dish duty next week. - Remember: There is no need! You guys are the goods! - Betty Crocker

Is his name Sean or Jacques, and does anyone really care?

Tina,
What does the metal switch on my walkman do?

Hey Bert,
Did you ever try free basing?
Love Ernie

To our favorite man and boy on campus:
double double purple pomme!
Love, Clue and Lil

Thea
I didn't forget about you. We need to meet for lunch. I care You count.
Box 5245 - Donna P.

Thelma
Can't believe we haven't run into each other. DonnaP.

Hey Cura,
Do you have a pair of socks I could borrow?
J. Stringer

Sue G. - Boy George Rules forever in our hearts. - NS

Ginger-
That car is on fire!!!!
Areeeba! Love Consuala

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We can't trade the truth for the fashion. We've got to live a life of compassion. - SCC

"I love you just as the Father loves me ..."
Jesus (John 15:9)

Bob and Bill,
Arrrgh! Hortense is dead!

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Pinocchio,
Lie to me

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Prince displays mastery on "Graffiti Bridge"

by Edward D. McGill
Strobe staff

"Dear Dad, things didn't turn out quite the way I wanted them to. Sometimes I feel like I'm going to explode..." (Prince)

And explode he does! Prince, his royal badness, is back, and he's wearing purple again. The color and the singer have been synonymous since his 1984 smash "Purple Rain." This album features Prince at his best, funky, sexually and religiously driven with an eagerness to rock.

After the success of "Purple Rain," Prince recorded some quality albums, most notably 1987's "Sign of the Times." Well received by critics and fans alike, these albums lacked the bold brashness which Prince thrived upon at the time of "Purple Rain."

The latest release, "Graffiti Bridge," has recaptured the style that propelled him to stardom, and the result is a sheer masterpiece.

"Graffiti Bridge" picks up where "Purple Rain" left off, pure funk mixed with a raw rock edge, and a sexual theme that only Prince could create. "Can't Stop This Feeling I Got" kicks the album into gear with a clasp of thunder. He sings of how people try to kick you when you're down, and only you can stop it. The song begins hard and fast and continues to pick up momentum. It closes with a thrashing guitar solo that sets the tone of the album.

In princely fashion, the purple one defines funk by offering such tracks as "New Power Generation," "Elephants and Flowers" and the hauntingly hypnotic "Day in Repetition," where Prince

speaks of man's inclination to repeat rather than to search for something new and exciting, possibly his answer to why he strayed from "Purple Rain's" successful formula.

Prince confronts emotional instability on "Thieves in the Temple," the lp's first single. He immediately comes back expressing confidence and hope on a compelling track entitled "Still Would Stand All Time." Prince sings with an emotional furor reminiscent of James Brown. He refers to his diligent search for love, and truly believes that someone, somehow, will eventually turn his turmoiled world into a paradise.

Fans of Morris Day and The Time will be glad to know that they contribute four songs to the album. However, let no mistake be made, this is Prince's album. "Graffiti Bridge" rocks and grooves from beginning to end and reaffirms Prince's claim to his throne.

Everyone is... At Risk

by Tish Pellegrino
Strobe staff

Have you ever felt alone because you were different from everyone else? Have you ever been afraid of something you didn't understand? Well, if you have, then you're not alone, and this book may just teach you a few things about yourself and others.

At Risk, by Alice Hoffman, is an in-depth study into the lives of an ordinary American family. The setting for this story is in Marrow Massachusetts, a small, New England town where Polly and Ivan Farrell reside along with their two children, Amanda and Charlie.

From the beginning, we get to know the Farrells as a typical suburban, middle-class family. They live their sheltered lives quietly and anonymously, managing to escape the misfortune of the world that surrounds them. Polly is a semi-neurotic wife, mother and struggling photographer, while her husband Ivan, a brilliant but underpaid astronomer, quietly cocoons himself in his own world of science. Charlie, their eight-year-old son is a dinosaur freak, and their eleven year-old daughter, Amanda, has visions of being the world's greatest gymnast.

Their lives are set on cruise control until one night after a gym-

nastics meet, Amanda becomes violently ill and goes home with flu-like symptoms. She recovers in a few days yet her symptoms return and unfortunately for the Farrells, so do Amanda's blood tests. She has tested positive for the AIDS virus.

Hoffman deals with this issue, as we all should from a humanistic view rather than a medical point of view. There's so much fear and misunderstanding associated with this disease, that we as a society, tend to forget the person and focus only on the disease. This book is not only about a young girl who has AIDS, it is about an entire family that has been afflicted with a tragedy who find enough strength to stay together.

Although this book is a work of fiction, the issue of AIDS and how it effects society is very real. This book addresses the turmoil, isolation and feelings of helplessness that each member of the Farrell family experiences. The author does this with such intensity, that the reader can't help but identify and care about what happens to each character. In the end, the reader can learn a lesson from this book. AIDS doesn't discriminate. It knows no race, color, or gender. It doesn't care if you are young, old, gay or straight. It only knows how to kill.

Revolting, yet appealing

by Dianne Brown
Strobe staff

You may not know what to expect when sitting down to experience the award winning play Shear Madness for the first time, but, then again, you may not know what to expect the tenth time either. January 29th 1990, marked the tenth anniversary of the longest-running non-musical play in U.S. history, as recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records.

The play is presented in a cozy, cabaret like setting where the audience dissolves into a unisex salon, in effect, becoming part of the scenery. The play revolves around the murder of the famed pianist Isabelle

What's hot/What's not

by Mike Matteson
Strobe staff

Pixies: "Bossanova" Boston band's least appealing release, but still above and beyond the competition....B

Ministry: "In case You Didn't Feel Like Showing Up (Live)" Al Jourgensen and CO. grind their way through six industrial/thrash tunes. A must for hardcore fans....B

Jane's Addiction: "Ritual De Lo Habitual" Challenging music from this L.A. outfit, it dares to add creativity to the otherwise monotonous metal genre. A bit watery when compared to their "Nothing Shocking" masterpiece....B+

Hilt: "Call The Ambulance Before I Hurt Myself" Skinny Puppy bad boys seem to be running out of creative ways to program their synthesizers. Hopefully just a cleansing process....C

formance is never the same due to the fresh, new ideas that blossom continuously throughout each performance. The play takes on an off beat twist, when the audience is allowed to interrogate the suspects and help recreate the crime under the direction of the cops.

Patrick Shea says the show requires both a blend of acting and standup comedy skills because anything can happen. Shea reached so far for a laugh that he actually kissed the head cop at one point in the performance, causing even the most composed actors to lose face. It is this impromptu magic that Shear Madness flawlessly captures.

The humor is unique in that it often refers to the current local banter of the area. Each per-

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Arts & Entertainment

Continued from page 6

Raving madness

by Mike Matteson
Strobe staff

"Revolting Cocks: Beers, Steers and Queers," the title of the latest release from Al Jourgen森 and friends, might have you wondering, exactly what am I in for? Or perhaps it's a country flavored album with good old Al strumming his acoustic guitar and howling about the vastness of our great Midwest. Unfortunately for some, I have to say no to both of those descriptions. Instead, REVCO, (The Revolting Cocks), is an industrial mixture of thundering drums, hypnotic bass, a guitar blast here and there, vocals that sound like they're sung through a megaphone, and psychotic lyrics.

The album begins with a sarcastic kick to the state of Texas. The song, which is actually a rap, boasts one of the rawest edged drum tracks around. The track, "Let's Get Physical," is Mr. Jourgen森's message to the women of the world. Although, it's not "2 Live Crew," the song is sure to ruffle more than a few

feminist's feathers.

"In the Neck" is the studio version of the song originally released on REVCO's live album. "Get Down" sounds strangely like a "Skinny Puppy" track, but that should be no surprise since Jourgen森, Key, and Ogilvie have been trading secrets and working side by side for the last couple of years.

The second side of the album boasts REVCO's cover tune single "Something Wonderful." Here Jourgen森's angry lyrics are ranted over an infectious rhythm which breaks down at brief intervals for a little old fashioned head-banging, but always returns to the groove of Paul Barker's bass line. The album ends strongly with "Razor's Edge" and leaves you drooling for more.

"Beers, Steers and Queers" is a strong album that deserves a lot of recognition. It's not for everyone, of course, but those of you looking for something that strays from the norm of light, three chord melodies, covered with sappy, shallow lyrics, may want to give this foot stomping, butt shaking release a try.



Patrick Shea and friends whoop it up in "Shear Madness"

File photo

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Student Jen Verano with Dr. DeNike at Convocation.

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

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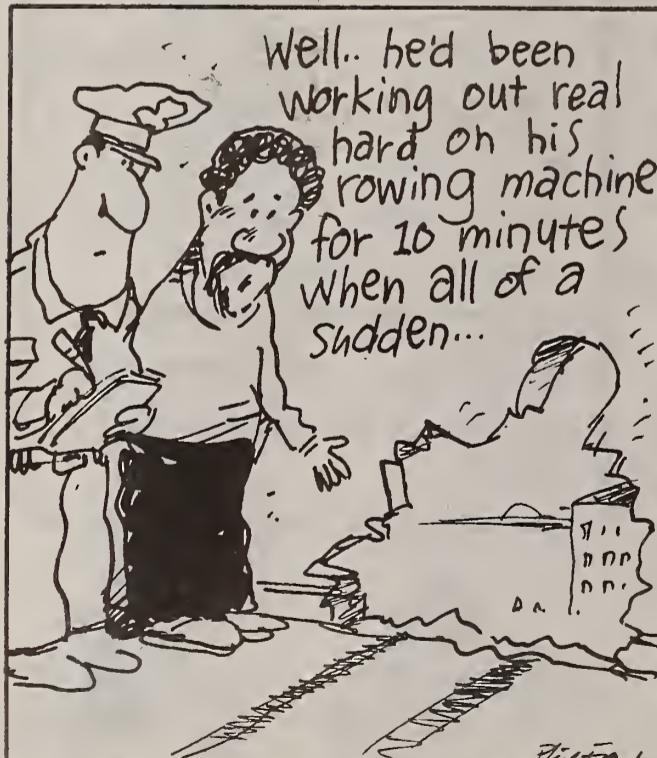
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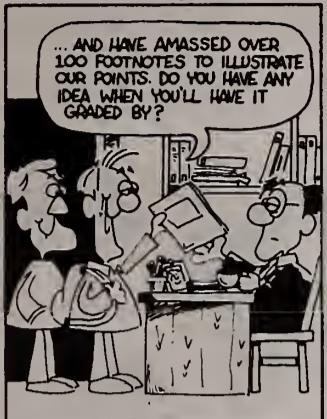
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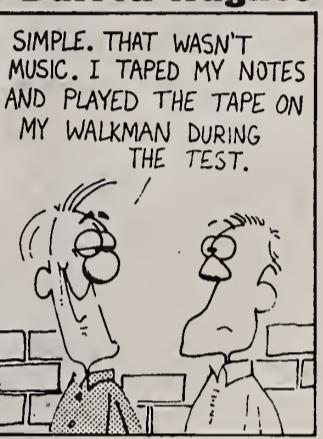
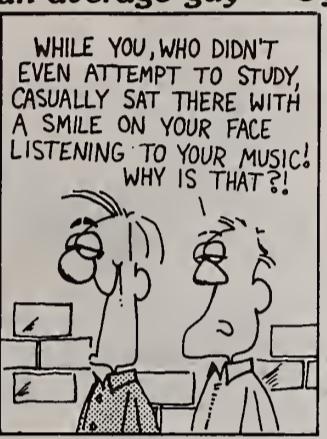
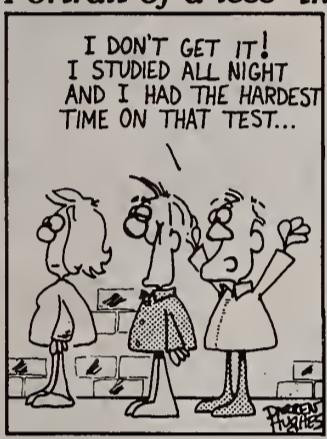
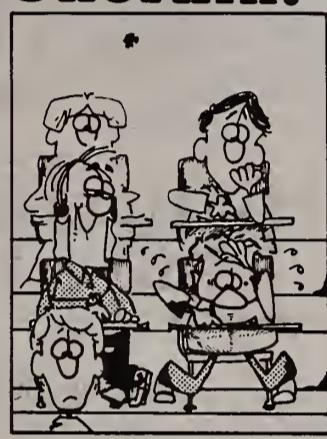
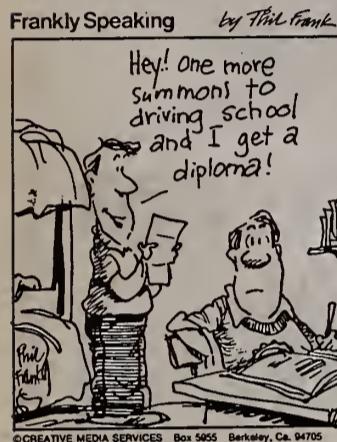
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Snorkin: Portrait of a less than average guy by Darren Hughes



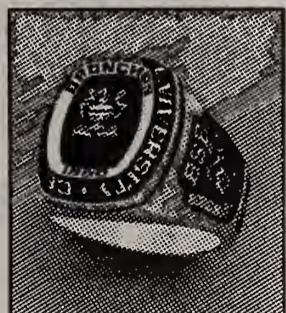
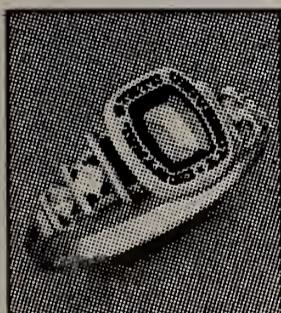
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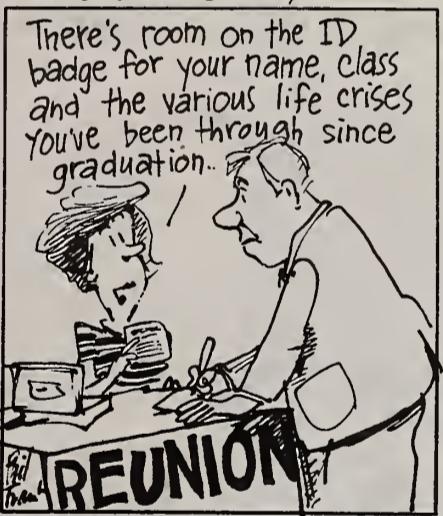


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Frankly Speaking by Phil Frank



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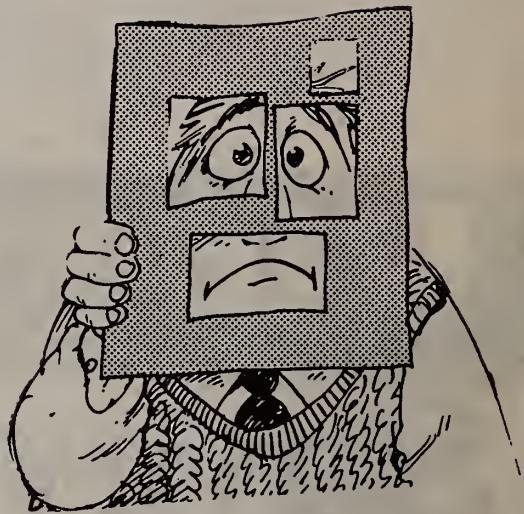
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SPORTS

Sports Symposium

by Mike McCrystal
Strobe staff

Just once I'd like to see Wade Boggs swing at the first pitch.

In the NFL, if you test positive for drugs, players can be banned for life. After one year, they can apply for re-instatement. Figure that one out.

Cecil Fielder leads the majors in home runs and runs batted in, but he could also lead the majors in strikeouts (156 and counting).

How many football fans besides me would like to see John Elway's teeth knocked out?

Jerry Glanville is so outspoken that I'd call him the John Silber of the NFL.

Headline: Atlanta is awarded the 1996 Summer Olympics. That's great for the U.S., but I think that the birthplace of the Olympic games, (Athens, Greece) should have hosted the games in its 100th anniversary year.

Jose Mesa, a pitcher for the Baltimore Orioles, was signed to a contract at the age of 15 by the Toronto Blue Jays.

Let's hope Dee Brown presses charges against the Wellesley Police Department.

The new expansion team in the N.H.L. in the 1991-1992 season will be called the San Jose Sharks.

At the U.S. Open, Pete Sampras' serve was clocked at 124 M.P.H.

I was just wondering if Buster Douglass is really a better fighter than Mike Tyson. If a rematch were to take place, I'd put my money on Tyson to end it quick.

The 49ers and the Pistons look like good bets to make it three in a row.

The Patriots made a great decision on taking their time in the development of Tommy Hodson.

Rickey Henderson has more stolen bases than the entire Red Sox team.

Watch for
The Strobe
every
Wednesday

The combination of Henderson, McGwire, and Canseco have more home runs than the entire Red Sox team. No wonder the A's dominate the Sox and all of baseball.

Dave Justice has made Atlanta Braves fans forget about their past superstar Dale Murphy.

It was good to see Dave Steib pitch a no-hitter after coming so close many times before. Unfortunately, it happened during a pennant race with the Sox.

George Brett is obviously still one of the best hitters in baseball, at the age of 37.

BYU's victory over Miami may have already won the Heisman Trophy for Ty Detmer.

The reason for the Sox September collapse, is not the loss of Roger Clemens, but the lack of clutch hitting with men in scoring position.

The Patriots will not lose on Sunday, October 14th. The NFL expanded the season to 17 weeks this season, so that every team will have a week off.

The N.Y. Giants look like the team with the best shot at dethroning the 49ers.

Mike Milbury is going with Moog and Lemelin to start the season. He'd be a fool not to because they are arguably the best tandem in the NHL.

Without Tony Rice, Notre Dame is just a good team with some incredible luck, as was evident against Michigan State.

It's too bad the Oklahoma Sooners are on probation because they very well could be the best team in the country.

With Clemens being out for the entire month of September, Bob Welch is a shoo-in for the American League Cy Young Award.

Soccer team off to good start

by Matt Datillo
Strobe staff

With Elliot Field finally refurbished and a Fitchburg State College soccer team vibrant with youth, it seemed only appropriate that Greg Martin scored the first goal of the season. The freshman from Foxboro made the most of a golden opportunity and scored his first goal 1:23 into his college career against 3-1-1 Rhode Island College.

The Falcon's momentum carried them further as Mark Buron banged home a pass from tri-captain Jason Malone for a 2-0 advantage not ten minutes into the contest. Fitchburg State carried the play for a good part of the half, but the Anchormen cut the score in half with a goal via the penalty kick.

Mike Kramer scored the game winner early in the second half. A throw-in near the R.I.C. end brought the fullback up to utilize his strong throwing ability to put the ball on net. Not only was the ball on net, it ended up in the back of it with the help of an R.I.C. defender. Raising his foot waist-high to control the throw, he inadvertently cleated the ball past the

inside of the goal post. 3-1, Fitchburg State. The Anchormen put one more past goalkeeper Dave Hughes (19 saves), but it was all they could muster against a tough-nosed Falcon defense.

Later that week, Fitchburg State traveled to Lowell where the Division II Chiefs stumped the Falcons 2-0. Fitchburg State missed four custom made scoring opportunities in the first ten minutes. Two of these were sparkling saves off Malone bids. The game remained scoreless throughout the opening half as the Falcons held off a spirited Chiefs' attack. Lowell finally scored and deflated the Falcons' work ethic to nothing. Assistant Coach Mike Lee explained the mood, "Frustrated...after missing the big scoring chances, they stopped working and lost their edge."

Roy Provost scored two overtime goals against UMass/Boston to clinch a hard fought contest, 4-2, at Elliot Field. UMass led 1-0 midway through the second half when tri-captain Jim Hodgdon broke away from the pack to tie the score. Jason Malone had what seemed to be the game-winner a few minutes later when he uncorked a hellacious blast past the stunned UMass goalie.

Not to be outdone, the talented visitors marched their way down and evened the score, much to the chagrin of seventh year Head Coach Malcolm MacPherson. The overtime proved to be the undoing for UMass. Although they boasted two of the better players in Division III as well as an array of strong foreign players, their attitude and conditioning proved to be their demise. Their players and coach displayed very short tempers as many of the calls rightfully went against them.

Also, as tri-captain Gordon "Hank" Cook noted with a laugh, "They were in terrible shape. The man I was covering was holding his side ten minutes into the game!"

Malone added, "We completely outworked them."

Coach Lee noted that the key to the game was good ball movement, "We passed the ball extremely well up from the back, especially in overtime."

Keeper Hughes notched his second win (17 saves). He sang the praises of a hard-working defense. "Mike (Kramer) is taking out their big scorer, while Hank is playing very aggressive soccer. (Freshman Fullback) Matt Mullen is playing very confidently for his first year."

Commentary

by David Walsh
Strobe staff

The recent sexual harassment of Boston Herald reporter Lisa Olson by several members of the New England Patriots angered me enough to sit down and comment on this incident.

First, what gives a bunch of overpaid football players (who stink anyway) the right to push around a reporter (male or female) who is only trying to do his/her job? Ms. Olson has every right to be in that locker room getting the facts along with her male peers.

What is so difficult about throwing a towel over one's body after stepping out of the shower. Women have been allowed into the locker room since 1978 and it should be an accepted policy for all athletes by now. These morons obviously have been taking too many macho pills to think that every female reporter would be enamored of looking at their private parts.

Do we still live in a society

where the male feels a woman's place is in the kitchen? Women are very much a part of today's workforce and men should stop trying to get the upper hand on women by insinuating that they want sex all of the time.

Obviously, in the case of Zeke Mowatt and Michael Timpson (two of the five Patriots named at press time), they felt that they could score some points by insinuating what Ms. Olson would love to do with them and other members of the team after the game. Try scoring some points on the field, guys!

Earning 500,000 dollars a year does not give that player the right to push around a female reporter making \$20,000 a year. These guys are just adolescents who feel that money gives them the right to rule the world.

In the meantime, a reporter has to struggle to make ends meet on his/her salary. Journalism has been ranked as one of the five lowest paying jobs out of college. It has often been said that you have to love the job to put up with such low pay. Ms. Olson

obviously is doing something she has worked very hard to achieve. To have a bunch of babies berate her, is the lowest level they can go.

Ms. Olson has been scarred by this incident as well as by the Patriots' poor attempt to cover the incident up. Apologies by Victor Kiam (the owner), Pat Sullivan (the general manager) and the players are not enough. A large fine probably wouldn't make a dent, but if the NFL took away the guilty players' toys by suspending them for a few games, they might think twice before making such stupid comments.

Ms. Olson has admitted that she is horrified by the whole situation, but has also stated that she will be in that locker room every Sunday for the rest of the season. She shows more guts than any of the guilty players and I commend her.

I'm sure Ms. Olson looks forward to returning to cover the Bruins and Celtics, two organizations that could teach the Patriots a lesson in class any day.